Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS

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BARLEY and OATS (Page 12)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

LATE NEWS

Late December cattle offerings in Cuba were comparably strong as cattlemen sought to unload their marketable stock before the dry season resulted in serious weight losses. The prospect was that by late January there would be a significant drop in the number of beef cattle available for market, especially if the Cuban government insisted on maintaining the 12-cents-per-pound ceiling on live cattle.

Consumers probably will notice a tightening in beef supplies before February 1, and the situation is likely to become critical during the ensuing three months. In anticipation of this shortage the Cuban Government was expected to publish a decree authorizing the duty-free entry of jerked beef.

This critical beef outlook is the direct result of the failure of cattle production to keep abreast of the increasing consumption. The prevailing 12 cents per pound ceiling is completely out of line with the return farmers can obtain from sugarcane and certain other crops, and as a consequence there is a definite trend away from cattle production in Cuba.

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Venezuelan cotton growers, faced with an over-supply of cotton in their country and lacking adequate storage facilities of their own, are selling their crop at prices considerably below the minimum level. A minimum price equivalent to 51 U.S. cents a pound for the highest quality cotton, was established on November 26, 1951 by agreement between the Venezuelan Government and members of the cotton trade.

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

Published weekly to inform producers, processors, distributors and consumers of farm products of current developments abroad in the crop and livestock industries, foreign trends in prices and consumption of farm products, and world agricultural trade. Circulation of this periodical is free to those persons in the U.S. needing the information it contains in farming, business and professional operations. Issued by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

WORLD BARLEY AND OATS CROP DOWN SLIGHTLY FROM FIRST FORECAST

World production of barley and oats in 1951 is now estimated at 130 million short tons, according to information available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. The current estimate is only slightly lower than the first estimate of 131 million short tons, published in Foreign Crops and Markets, of October 8, 1951, and still indicates one of the largest world harvests of barley and oats of record. In 1950 production of barley and oats totalled nearly 125 million tons, and the prewar (1935-39) average was about 126.5 million tons.

Total world tonnage of these two grains in 1951 consisted of 2,580 million bushels of barley and 4,270 million of oats. The current harvest of both barley and oats is above that of 1950, with much of the increase occurring in deficit areas of Europe and Asia. Barley production is well above the prewar average of 2,365 million bushels, with higher levels of production in every major geographic area except the Soviet Union. The expansion is especially marked in Canada - the principal source of barley available for export during the coming year. Marked declines in Europe and apparently in the Soviet Union, which more than offset increased production in North America, account for the lower level of oats production as compared with prewar.

Most of the decline from the first estimate of world production of barley and oats in 1951 is accounted for by downward revisions of the harvest in the Americas, principally Canada, Argentina, and the United States. Unfavorable harvesting weather in Canada, and statistical adjustments in the level of oats production indicated by the 1950 census of agriculture in the United States account for most of the decline from earlier expectations. In Argentina, where the crops have just been harvested, heavy grazing and drought are the principal factors in the reduced yields of both barley and oats. Exports of barley from Argentina, an important source of supply in the immediate postwar period, have been very small in recent years. Considering the short supply of other feeds in that country, all of the current oats crop will be needed for domestic requirements.

In contrast to the lower estimates for the Western Hemisphere, recent reports indicate that the 1951 harvest of barley and oats in Europe was somewhat larger than estimated earlier. Most of the improvement was noted in the United Kingdom and northeastern parts of the continent. Increases were slight in total, however, and were not enough to offset declines in North and South America.

Elsewhere in the world only minor changes were made in the previous forecast of barley and oats production in 1951. Detailed estimates of acreage, yield per acre, and total production in individual countries, with comparisons, are shown in the accompanying tables.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.

BARLEY: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest, averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1949-1951 1/

Continent and country	Acreage 2/					Yield per acre 3/					Production				
	Average					Average					Average				
	1935-39	1940-44	1949	1950	1951 4/	1935-39	1940-44	1949	1950	1951 4/	1935-39	1940-44	1949	1950	1951 4/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
NORTH AMERICA															
Canada	4,291	6,461	6,017	6,625	8,036	20.7	27.4	20.0	25.9	31.5	88,882	176,850	120,408	171,393	252,930
Mexico	374	391	531	568	-	10.6	13.2	13.8	13.1	-	3,960	5,171	7,350	7,440	-
United States	10,817	14,392	9,857	11,153	9,391	22.1	23.7	24.0	27.2	27.1	238,622	340,464	236,737	303,533	254,668
Estimated total 5/	1,,480	21,250	16,410	18,350	17,950	-	-	-	-	-	332,000	522,000	364,000	482,000	515,000
EUROPE															
Austria	401	383	311	330	370	32.6	30.1	31.0	34.8	37.3	13,087	11,520	9,650	11,500	13,800
Belgium	74	137	194	207	219	48.2	47.6	58.5	58.0	56.5	3,570	6,525	11,340	12,000	12,380
Bulgaria	767	544	-	-	-	22.7	18.8	-	-	-	17,400	10,200	-	-	-
Czechoslovakia	6/ 1,600	1,560	1,425	-	-	6/ 32.4	30.8	35.1	-	-	6/ 51,800	48,000	50,000	-	-
Denmark	946	984	1,121	1,221	1,280	55.9	56.0	64.4	60.8	61.7	52,881	55,084	72,155	74,180	79,000
Finland	280	294	335	330	330	28.2	21.7	27.2	27.9	28.8	7,900	6,373	9,100	9,200	9,500
France	1,897	1,790	2,214	2,377	2,513	27.9	23.5	29.7	30.4	30.5	53,004	42,000	65,725	72,200	76,560
Western Germany	6/ 2,005	-	1,220	1,520	1,590	6/ 39.4	-	45.7	44.5	48.7	6/ 79,000	-	55,700	67,600	77,500
Other Germany	6/ 1,070	-	-	-	-	6/ 46.3	-	-	-	-	6/ 49,500	-	-	-	-
Greece	525	490	504	510	516	17.8	13.6	17.9	18.0	19.4	9,365	6,640	9,020	9,190	10,000
Hungary	1,163	1,235	-	-	-	25.9	24.3	-	-	-	30,178	30,000	-	-	-
Ireland	118	172	157	125	175	45.9	43.1	51.0	48.0	45.7	5,413	7,417	8,000	6,000	8,000
Italy	475	575	618	613	613	20.9	17.7	16.8	21.8	20.2	9,950	10,200	10,400	13,360	12,400
Netherlands	107	109	121	170	162	55.5	51.8	71.9	62.9	61.7	5,934	5,642	8,700	10,700	10,000
Norway	143	126	99	103	132	38.2	34.1	39.9	44.1	45.5	5,467	4,299	3,955	4,540	6,000
Poland	2,570	-	-	-	-	29.6	-	-	-	-	76,000	-	-	-	-
Portugal	320	-	345	359	384	12.8	-	12.5	15.8	15.9	4,100	-	4,320	5,660	6,100
Rumania	2,030	1,620	-	-	-	13.8	15.3	-	-	-	28,000	24,800	-	-	-
Spain	7/ 4,549	4,075	3,700	3,820	3,840	7/ 21.3	18.4	22.3	20.4	21.5	7/ 97,059	75,000	82,500	78,000	82,500
Sweden	252	260	213	232	273	39.5	34.4	38.4	41.6	42.1	9,951	8,956	8,175	9,650	11,500
Switzerland	13	53	47	48	48	33.1	40.3	48.9	44.8	45.0	430	2,136	2,300	2,150	2,160
United Kingdom	934	1,620	2,060	1,780	1,905	39.2	40.9	48.2	44.9	43.7	36,596	66,183	99,353	79,850	83,160
Yugoslavia	1,045	1,000	-	-	-	18.0	16.6	-	-	-	18,800	16,600	-	-	-
Estimated total 5/	23,310	22,480	22,590	23,170	23,810	-	-	-	-	-	666,000	610,000	690,000	695,000	745,000
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	26,600	-	21,500	21,500	-	16.0	-	14.4	15.1	-	425,000	-	310,000	325,000	-

ASIA															
Iran	6/ 1,545	1,567	1,762	1,977	1,873	6/ 23.1	21.5	17.0	18.6	17.6	6/ 35,728	33,735	30,000	36,740	33,000
Iraq	6/ 1,932	2,620	1,853	2,470	2,500	6/ 12.2	10.3	18.9	15.0	14.4	23,635	27,100	35,000	37,000	36,000
Lebanon	8/	88	50	44	-	8/	14.0	20.8	20.9	-	8/	1,234	1,040	920	-
Syria	8/ 793	651	-	-	-	8/ 19.4	17.8	-	-	-	8/ 15,386	11,589	10,000	10,000	-
Turkey	4,592	4,822	4,300	4,700	5,060	20.9	17.6	13.3	20.0	23.7	96,129	85,017	57,250	94,020	120,000
China	6/ 16,000	14,200	15,200	-	-	6/ 21.7	21.7	20.1	-	-	6/ 347,000	308,200	305,000	-	-
Manchuria	6/ 353	237	-	-	-	6/ 18.3	22.4	-	-	-	6/ 6,462	5,300	-	-	-
Indian Union 9/	6/ 5,793	5,918	7,688	7,654	7,443	6/ 15.6	15.3	13.8	13.1	14.2	6/ 90,253	90,552	105,750	100,470	105,650
Pakistan 9/	6/ 486	546	611	563	571	6/ 14.5	13.9	13.7	12.8	13.1	6/ 7,047	7,588	8,350	7,200	7,500
Japan	1,888	2,097	2,466	2,520	2,410	38.7	35.0	33.3	31.8	41.5	73,113	73,311	82,150	80,200	100,000
Korea	2,674	2,620	-	-	-	19.5	20.6	-	-	-	52,096	54,000	-	-	-
Estimated total 5/	37,860	37,080	38,490	39,160	39,080	-	-	-	-	-	770,000	720,000	695,000	730,000	790,000
AFRICA															
Algeria	3,051	2,714	2,734	2,740	2,800	10.9	8.8	16.5	13.9	9.3	33,132	23,836	45,000	38,000	26,000
Egypt	276	331	175	130	125	38.8	35.2	37.1	34.6	38.4	10,697	11,662	6,500	4,500	4,800
French Morocco	4,448	5,130	4,525	4,850	4,730	12.0	9.8	13.9	10.3	14.2	53,279	50,189	62,800	50,000	67,000
Tunisia	1,182	1,180	1,530	934	865	7.7	4.8	11.7	9.9	-	9,048	5,695	17,870	9,200	-
Union of South Africa	6/ 86	129	-	-	-	6/ 18.1	15.1	-	-	-	1,555	1,946	-	-	-
Estimated total 5/	10,310	10,760	10,480	10,280	10,240	-	-	-	-	-	121,000	107,000	151,000	122,000	122,000
SOUTH AMERICA															
Argentina	1,286	1,090	970	1,400	1,000	17.6	22.8	18.7	23.2	18.0	22,586	24,805	18,100	32,540	18,000
Chile	184	122	112	130	150	27.4	28.3	26.1	31.9	-	5,041	3,453	2,928	4,150	-
Uruguay	44	54	81	68	59	14.8	12.8	15.3	16.6	-	649	693	1,240	1,130	-
Estimated total 5/	2,140	1,910	2,050	2,430	2,070	-	-	-	-	-	38,000	39,000	37,000	49,000	35,000
OCEANIA															
Australia	648	610	1,040	1,080	1,100	18.0	15.7	19.6	22.0	19.5	11,651	9,590	20,360	23,790	21,500
New Zealand	24	32	57	58	-	39.7	36.7	44.4	36.2	-	952	1,175	2,530	2,100	-
Total	672	642	1,097	1,138	1,160	-	-	-	-	-	12,603	10,765	22,890	25,890	23,700
Estimated world total 5/	116,370	115,000	112,600	116,030	115,810	-	-	-	-	-	2,365,000	2,335,000	2,265,000	2,425,000	2,580,000

1/ Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow: thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1951 is combined with preliminary forecasts for the Southern Hemisphere harvests which begin late in 1951 and end early in 1952. 2/ Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible. 3/ Yield per acre calculated from acreage and production data shown, except for incomplete periods. 4/ Revised estimates for Northern Hemisphere countries; for Southern Hemisphere, preliminary forecasts based largely on acreage and weather conditions to date. 5/ Estimated totals, which in the case of production, are rounded to millions, include allowances for any missing data for countries shown and for other producing countries not shown. 6/ Average of less than 5 years. 7/ Figure for 1935 only. 8/ Estimates for Syria and Lebanon not shown separately during this period. 9/ Figures shown during this period are not strictly comparable since figures for 1950 and 1951 include allowances for non-reporting areas, which were not included with earlier figures shown, but were included in estimated total for Asia.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research, or other information. Prewar estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to conform to present boundaries.

OATS: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest, averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1949-51 1/

Continent and country	Acreage 2/					Yield per acre 3/					Production				
	Average		1949	1950	1951 4/	Average		1949	1950	1951 4/	Average		1949	1950	1951 4/
	1935-39	1940-44				1935-39	1940-44				1935-39	1940-44			
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
NORTH AMERICA															
Canada 5/	13,246	13,614	11,389	11,575	12,065	25.5	34.1	27.9	36.3	40.9	338,071	463,944	317,916	419,930	493,292
Mexico	29	87	195	198	-	16.0	19.5	20.8	20.6	-	465	1,699	4,050	4,075	-
United States	35,761	38,075	40,440	40,733	36,454	29.2	31.8	32.9	34.6	36.1	1,045,329	1,212,146	1,329,473	1,410,464	1,316,396
Estimated total 6/	49,040	51,780	52,030	52,510	48,710	-	-	1,384,000	1,678,000	1,651,000	1,834,000	1,678,000	1,651,000	1,834,000	1,814,000
EUROPE															
Austria	686	567	545	544	544	41.9	37.0	40.4	30.3	43.2	28,746	21,000	22,000	16,500	23,500
Belgium	548	390	480	438	400	74.7	70.2	84.3	79.2	81.0	40,946	27,367	40,440	34,680	32,390
Bulgaria	362	401	-	-	-	24.9	21.4	-	-	-	9,000	8,586	-	-	-
Czechoslovakia	7/ 1,828	1,680	1,421	-	-	7/ 46.6	45.1	48.6	-	-	7/ 35,131	75,800	69,000	-	-
Denmark	932	843	761	684	661	75.3	76.1	88.9	84.0	88.1	70,205	64,112	67,654	57,460	58,215
Finland	1,030	926	1,075	1,175	1,175	43.7	34.6	47.4	43.4	46.0	45,000	32,027	51,000	51,000	54,000
France	8,089	6,300	6,019	5,814	5,493	40.7	35.7	36.9	39.2	45.2	329,304	225,000	222,180	227,690	248,160
Western Germany	7/ 3,370	-	2,800	2,860	2,800	7/ 57.7	-	63.9	61.2	69.6	7/ 194,500	-	179,000	175,000	195,000
Other Germany	7/ 1,810	-	-	-	-	7/ 64.4	-	-	-	-	7/ 116,500	-	-	-	-
Greece	350	349	333	363	377	24.3	20.1	22.5	22.6	25.2	8,510	7,025	7,500	8,200	9,500
Hungary	558	660	-	-	-	35.9	36.4	-	-	-	20,042	24,000	-	-	-
Ireland	571	844	725	640	650	68.8	62.2	55.2	59.4	61.5	39,265	52,535	40,000	38,000	40,000
Italy	1,062	1,090	1,158	1,169	1,134	35.9	31.6	24.7	32.6	30.9	38,150	34,400	28,570	38,120	35,000
Luxembourg	65	54	51	57	51	44.8	47.6	49.0	42.8	49.0	2,910	2,572	2,500	2,440	2,500
Netherlands	360	291	333	348	379	71.6	62.8	87.7	75.6	89.1	25,769	18,287	29,200	26,300	33,750
Norway	212	226	187	192	189	61.0	49.1	60.2	64.5	65.8	12,940	11,094	11,250	12,390	12,430
Poland	4,900	-	-	-	-	41.6	-	-	-	-	204,000	-	-	-	-
Portugal	865	-	800	810	790	12.0	-	9.0	11.0	12.0	10,350	-	7,200	8,900	9,500
Rumania	1,620	1,340	-	-	-	23.1	24.2	-	-	-	37,500	32,400	-	-	-
Spain	8/ 1,848	1,800	1,600	1,600	1,610	8/ 21.3	21.1	21.6	23.8	24.8	8/ 39,369	38,000	34,500	38,000	40,000
Sweden	1,641	1,476	1,240	1,243	1,240	53.1	39.4	51.2	49.1	50.0	87,198	58,136	63,500	61,000	62,000
Switzerland	28	83	57	60	60	56.9	66.3	78.9	64.2	72.3	1,593	5,505	4,500	3,850	4,340
United Kingdom	2,430	3,764	3,252	3,105	2,861	57.0	58.4	64.6	60.7	59.2	138,628	219,926	210,060	188,440	169,300
Yugoslavia	893	850	-	-	-	24.5	22.5	-	-	-	21,900	19,100	-	-	-
Estimated total 6/	36,090	34,310	31,990	31,600	31,010	-	-	-	-	-	1,608,000	1,465,000	1,410,000	1,360,000	1,430,000
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	49,500	-	37,000	37,000	-	23.5	-	20.9	20.3	-	1,165,000	-	775,000	750,000	-

ASIA															
Syria	9/ 24	21	-	-	-	9/ 27.6	27.4	-	-	-	9/ 662	575	-	-	-
Turkey	636	871	560	750	790	26.6	21.6	21.4	29.0	30.7	16,893	18,779	12,000	21,740	24,240
China	7/ 2,600	-	2,322	-	-	7/ 23.1	-	21.5	-	-	7/ 60,000	-	50,000	-	-
Japan	310	324	205	216	193	37.0	30.4	31.9	42.7	49.2	11,481	9,838	6,540	9,230	9,500
Korea	7/ 242	-	-	-	-	7/ 11.2	-	-	-	-	7/ 2,718	-	-	-	-
Estimated total 6/	4,010	4,660	3,870	4,130	4,200	-	-	-	-	-	96,000	104,000	81,000	96,000	103,000
AFRICA															
Algeria	465	544	426	460	430	23.4	19.2	23.5	22.7	22.8	10,859	10,470	10,000	10,450	9,820
French Morocco	104	91	114	119	143	26.5	25.7	29.1	25.6	29.4	2,751	2,339	3,321	3,050	4,200
Tunisia	84	79	74	74	67	19.9	17.6	23.5	23.2	23.9	1,674	1,390	1,740	1,720	1,600
Union of South Africa	7/ 544	-	-	-	-	7/ 12.8	-	-	-	-	6,966	7,238	8,000	-	-
Estimated total 6/	1,210	1,440	1,340	1,330	1,370	-	-	-	-	-	23,000	22,000	24,000	24,000	25,000
SOUTH AMERICA															
Argentina	1,974	1,855	1,275	1,570	1,400	25.4	26.7	29.2	30.6	25.0	50,182	49,507	37,200	48,000	35,000
Chile	279	218	225	250	290	27.5	27.1	20.0	24.1	-	7,670	5,900	4,500	6,030	-
Uruguay	213	224	244	158	170	14.6	12.5	16.8	15.8	-	3,100	2,790	4,100	2,500	-
Estimated total 6/	2,490	2,320	1,780	2,020	1,900	-	-	-	-	-	62,000	59,000	46,000	57,000	46,000
OCEANIA															
Australia	1,593	1,626	1,750	1,760	1,900	14.7	12.4	19.5	17.8	16.8	23,351	20,179	34,200	31,400	32,000
New Zealand	63	63	53	50	-	56.2	61.2	61.8	57.0	-	3,539	3,853	3,275	2,850	3,500
Total	1,656	1,689	1,803	1,810	1,958	-	-	-	-	-	26,890	24,032	37,475	34,250	35,500
Estimated world total 6/	144,000	140,600	129,820	130,390	126,150	-	-	-	-	-	4,365,000	4,305,000	4,025,000	4,160,000	4,270,000

1/ Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow: thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1951 is combined with preliminary forecasts for the Southern Hemisphere harvests which will begin late in 1951 and end early in 1952. 2/ Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible. 3/ Yield per acre calculated from acreage and production data shown, except for incomplete periods. 4/ Preliminary estimates for Northern Hemisphere countries; for Southern Hemisphere, preliminary forecasts based largely on acreage and weather conditions to date. 5/ Production and yield reported in bushels of 34 pounds. 6/ Estimated totals, which in the case of production are rounded to millions, include allowances for any missing data for countries shown and for other producing countries not shown. 7/ Average of less than 5 years. 8/ Figure for 1935 only. 9/ Includes estimate for Lebanon, and is, therefore, not strictly comparable with estimates shown for later years.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governmnnts, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research, or other information. Prewar estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjsted to conform to present boundaries.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

AUSTRALIA'S MILK AND DAIRY PRODUCTS PRODUCTION DECLINES

Milk production in Australia in the current summer season will be below that of a year ago, due primarily to greatly reduced production in Queensland and northern New South Wales, 2 States which together account for nearly half of the Commonwealth's milk output. Production for the country as a whole in the third calendar quarter was approximately 92 percent of comparable 1950, the smallest production for this quarter since 1946.

Supplies of butter and, to a lesser extent, of infants' and invalids' food are tightening, with retailers resorting to informal rationing in an effort to supply all of their customers. Queensland is particularly short of butter because of the low production of the past few months, and butter is being shifted from New South Wales to Queensland with the prospect of replacement by Victorian butter in a few weeks. A ban on the sale of fresh cream was imposed in the Sydney area during the second week in December, and it is very probable that fluid milk will be rationed.

Reserves of hay and roughage in Queenland are at an all-time low. Hot, dry weather in that State and in northern New South Wales since late September not only deteriorated pastures, but also created ideal conditions for grass and bush fires. Millions of acres were burned out, and thousands of livestock were burned to death or so badly burned that they had to be destroyed. No improvement in pasture conditions in these areas had taken place by the first of December, and it is expected that even larger number of milk cows will die of starvation on the burnt-over country, thus further depleting dairy herds. Even if there is optimum rainfall during the remainder of the summer, milk production will not reach normal levels, as most cows are too far advanced in lactation to respond significantly to adequate feeding. On the other hand, continuation of the drought would rapidly accentuate loss of milk production currently and for some time in the future.

Elsewhere in Australia, pasture conditions are generally satisfactory and milk production is at high levels, but in these areas, the seasonal peak of milk production has been passed, and the normal pattern of milk production will be for moderate reductions during the next few months.

For the first 9 months of the 1951 calendar year, milk production was about 8.4 percent less than during the same months of 1950, and was the lowest for this period since 1946, with prolonged drought in Queensland and New South Wales and excessively wet conditions in Victoria accounting for the reduction.

Likewise, output of dairy products was considerably less. Butter production was down in each of the first 3 quarters of 1951, and down 13 percent for the first 9 months. Cheese production was down in the

first 2 quarters, about at 1950 levels for the third quarter, and was down about 7 percent for the first 9 months. The output of canned milk was also down in the first two quarters, about at 1950 levels for the third quarter, and was down about 5 percent for the 9 months period. Dried milk production was down for the first 2 quarters, up in the third, and down about 5 percent for the 9 months period.

CUBAN EGG MARKETING
DEVELOPMENTS

With the view of developing a sounder poultry industry in Cuba, especially with respect to the production and marketing of eggs, the Cuban Minister of Agriculture issued Decree 4768 (published in Official Gazette 267, November 14, 1951). This Decree authorizes the establishment of certified poultry farms for the production of quality-graded eggs for local consumption.

During recent years Cuba has become more and more dependent upon imported eggs to satisfy local requirements, particularly in the Havana area. Commercial poultrymen have concentrated upon the production of broilers rather than eggs. The ceiling price on eggs, currently 72 cents retail per dozen, has discouraged investment in egg production.

Decree 4768 establishes 3 grades for hen eggs, based upon both size and quality. It is assumed that there will be some modification in the ceiling price of eggs sold by official certified poultry farms, as a means of encouraging the production of high grade eggs. In January of each year the Cuban Ministry of Agriculture will publish the list of these certified farms, based upon the qualifications set forth in the Decree.

ARGENTINE CATTLE
PRICES RISE

According to Charles C. Wilson, Assistant Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Buenos Aires, the shortage of cattle at the important Liniers Market during the usual season of large marketings has forced an approximate 25 percent increase in prices since the middle of December. Marketing receipts are generally low due to a reduction in cattle numbers. Marketings at Liniers were substantially lower as higher prices at small markets throughout the country attracted cattle, normally sold through the central Liniers outlet. In view of adequate pastures some cattle were withheld for better weight and possible price increases. On December 15 freight rates were increased 75 percent, which caused an average rise of about 4 centavos per kilo live weight (less than half a cent U.S. per pound). During the first part of December cattle receipts at Liniers Market fell to less than 4,000 head daily, wherein about 7,500 head are needed to supply domestic demand at the present rate of consumption. Retail supplies became very short.

Central cattle prices were as high as could profitably be paid under existing maximum wholesale meat prices. Cattle buyers at Liniers Market, however, increased prices over the period of a week by about 40 centavos per kilo (3.6 U.S. cents per pound) to a level of from 1.55 to 1.70 pesos per kilo (14.1 to 15.4 U.S. cents per pound) for most animals. Prices were steady in late December at approximately the level of the smaller interior markets, except for heavy export steers which are still considerably lower. By the end of the year producers had responded to higher prices and cattle receipts at Liniers were close to domestic needs. Prices for cattle purchased directly by central packaging plants have not changed from previous lower levels, so these sales have been practically nil.

Wholesale and retail meat prices have not officially been raised, consequently packers are compelled to sell at unprofitable prices based upon previous buying levels. Small jobbers and retailers, however, are selling at higher than official prices. An official increase in price to consumers is expected soon.

Though government officials are currently concerned with supplying the domestic market, it is significant that cattle prices are now above the level at which meat can be profitably supplied against the United Kingdom contract under present exchange rates.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL
SALES AND MOVEMENT

Sales of wool in Australian centers during the month of November amounted to 418,966 bales of greasy wool and 7,085 bales of scoured wool, compared to 499,220 greasy and 10,443 scoured in November 1950. The average prices received were about $0.76 and $1.00 per pound for greasy and scoured wool, respectively, compared to $1.26 and $1.69 received in November of 1950.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL RECEIPTS
AND DISPOSALS

Receipts of wool into store in Australia from July through November 1951 amounted to 2.6 million bales, about 40 thousand bales more than in the corresponding period last season. Receipts of new season wool at 2.5 million bales was about 24 thousand bales above new wool received in the 5-month period of the previous season.

Disposal at auction accounted for 1,289 thousand bales this year compared with 1,478 thousand last year, while 9,613 bales were shipped abroad for sale compared with 11,013 in the 5-month period ending November 30, 1950. This left 1,308 thousand bales in store at the end of November compared with 1,077 thousand last year.

LIGHTER WOOL CLIP
SEEN FROM SOUTH AFRICA

Wool farmers and traders are now of the opinion that the 1951-52 season's production will not exceed that of the previous season as the weight per clip is generally lighter than during the 1950-51 season. The

expected decrease is attributed to drought conditions in the principal wool-growing districts. The South African Wool Disposals Organization and the trade plan on issuing a revised estimate of the season's production during the month of January.

The monthly market report for November 1951 released by the South African Wool Disposals Organization gives the number of bales offered at auctions during November 1951 as 135,951 as compared with 127,981 during November 1950. During November 1951 90,544 bales were auctioned in Port Elizabeth and East London, while 26,885 were offered at Cape Town and 18,522 at Durban.

Total exports of all wool from July 1 to November 30, 1951, amounted to 191,584 bales of grease wool weighing 53,775,515 pounds and 34,371 bales of scoured wool weighing 6,955,136 pounds.

The principal export markets in order of importance from July 1 to November 30, 1951 are the United Kingdom, France, the United States and Italy.

CANADIAN BEEF AND CATTLE
EXPORTS TO U.S. OFF SHARPLY

At the close of 1951, the Canadian export movement of both beef cattle and beef to the United States fell to the lowest level since postwar shipments were resumed in mid-August 1948. Shipments were practically nil for the week ending December 26. Only 20 head of cattle and 127,275 pounds of beef and veal were exported compared with 3,378 head and 2,037,053 pounds for the same week in 1950. Exports were sharply lower because of the strengthening of the Canadian dollar to a position of par with the U. S. dollar and to reduced marketings associated with herd expansion. Total Canadian beef production during 1951 was far below the 1950 level. Marketings in 1952 will continue downward as cattle and calves are held back to build up herds with lower exports to the United States likely. 1/

Although Canadian exports of dressed beef and veal to the United States during 1951 were increased by roughly 15 million pounds when compared with the previous year, a sharp decline in the movement of slaughter and feeder stock more than offset this gain. According to data supplied by The Livestock and Meat Trade Report, Ottawa, exports of dressed beef and veal approximated 91 million pounds in 1951. The export of live beef cattle to the United States during 1951 amounted to around 155,000 head, against 349,000 head in 1950. The trend of movement during the 2 years is covered in the accompanying tables.

1/ A comprehensive study by C. L. Harlan of the "Canadian Livestock Industry", Foreign Agriculture Report No. 61, is now available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

CANADA: Exports of beef cattle and dressed beef and veal to the United States, bi-weekly, 1950.

Bi-weekly period ending	Beef cattle 1/ For immediate slaughter	Beef cattle 1/ Total	Beef and Veal Total
	Head	Head	1,000 lbs.
January 18	9,833	13,734	2/ 1,328
February 1	10,629	15,799	3,566
February 15	7,656	14,091	2,351
March 1	6,822	13,595	2,408
March 15	6,738	12,566	1,461
March 29	5,780	10,781	1,683
April 12	5,492	8,998	1,740
April 26	6,741	10,237	1,360
May 11	9,865	13,809	2,064
May 25	7,280	9,766	3,559
June 8	10,323	13,944	2,644
June 22	10,435	16,576	2,829
July 6	5,088	10,011	2,903
July 20	5,273	8,143	3,446
August 3	4,842	11,384	5,333
August 16	4,612	11,270	4,438
August 30	1,878	6,552	5,176
September 13	4,746	10,987	2,451
September 27	4,506	18,235	3,050
October 11	2,918	13,940	3,754
October 25	2,404	10,363	2,835
November 8	4,814	22,735	1,800
November 22	2,351	24,599	3,452
December 6	4,876	21,467	3,476
December 20	3,319	14,717	3,014
January 3, 1951	1,304	4,119	3/ 3,800
Total	150,525	4/ 348,824	75,935

1/ Includes cattle weighing 200-700 pounds and over 700 pounds.
2/ Includes shipments from January 1.
3/ Includes shipments through December 31 only.
4/ Includes 6,406 head, previously reported as calves, added to total but not shown in weekly figures.

Source: Livestock and Meat Trade Report, Ottawa.

CANADA: Exports of beef cattle and dressed beef and veal to the United States, bi-weekly, 1951.

Bi-weekly period ending	Beef cattle 1/		Beef and Veal
	For immediate slaughter	Total	Total
	Head	Head	1,000 lbs.
January 17	4,221	7,274	2/ 447
January 31	4,146	8,906	2,193
February 14	2,892	7,203	1,607
February 28	3,127	9,918	1,257
March 14	2,813	5,751	1,481
March 28	4,993	9,143	1,082
April 11	3,847	7,560	1,325
April 25	3,974	7,036	1,996
May 9	5,222	8,076	5,674
May 23	4,801	5,925	5,261
June 6	6,304	8,239	7,800
June 20	3,792	4,601	7,319
July 4	2,306	2,646	9,529
July 18	2,088	2,515	7,954
August 1	1,479	2,497	6,108
August 15	2,398	3,414	3,612
August 29	2,114	4,787	3,886
September 12	1,865	5,292	2,472
September 26	2,351	9,756	3,095
October 10	2,316	8,098	4,532
October 24	1,125	5,637	4,020
November 7	1,382	9,336	3,308
November 21	780	5,373	2,830
December 5	686	4,283	1,128
December 19	305	951	814
Total-50 weeks	71,327	154,217	2/ 90,730

1/ Includes cattle weighing 200-700 pounds and over 700 pounds.
2/ Includes shipments from January 1.

Source: Livestock and Meat Trade Report, Ottawa.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL
EXPORTS DOWN IN 1951

Wool exports from Australia to all destinations for the 4 months (July-October) of the current season amounted to 192 million pounds. This is 71 million pounds below total exports for the same 4 months in 1950 and about 130 million pounds below those in 1949. This figure is made up of 168 million pounds greasy, 18 million pounds scoured, 4 million pounds carbonized and about 2.6 million pounds of noils, tops and waste.

A breakdown of shipments by country of destination, of greasy wool only, indicates that shipments to the United States and Italy increased by 8 and 6 million pounds respectively but exports to most other major wool buying countries were considerably less than in the 4 months ended October 31, 1950. The greatest decreases were registered in exports to the United Kingdom, Belgium and France, which were 19, 18, and 6 million pounds respectively smaller than in the 1950 period.

AUSTRALIA: Exports of greasy wool to major consuming countries, July-October 1951 with comparisons.

Destination	1949	1950	1951
	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.
United Kingdom	112,621	58,624	39,017
France	54,866	39,110	32,269
Belgium	38,675	32,088	13,941
United States	21,997	25,513	33,984
Japan	8,691	13,242	13,211
Germany	11,490	13,178	4,725
Italy	11,632	12,134	18,145
Poland	7,939	5,003	5,555
Soviet Union	1,280	4,057	-
All Other	10,727	9,161	7,421
Total	279,318	212,110	168,268

Source: U. S. Consulate General Monthly Wool Report.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS
ON WORLD MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on world markets converted at current rates of exchange.

COTTON: Spot prices in certain foreign markets, U.S. gulf-port average, and taxes incident to exports

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1952	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equiv. US¢ a lb. Spot quotation	Equiv. US¢ a lb. Export & intermediate taxes
Alexandria		Kantar				
Ashmouni, FG	1-10	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	107.55	61.90	11.51
Ashmouni, Good	"	"	"	92.55	53.27	11.51
Ashmouni, FGF	"	"	"	84.55	48.66	11.51
Karnak, FG	"	"	"	203.00	116.83	11.51
Karnak, Good	"	"	"	162.25	93.38	11.51
Karnak, FGF	"	"	"	121.50	69.93	11.51
Bombay		Candy				
Jarila, Fine	"	784 lbs.	Rupee	1/ 810.00	21.53	21.26
Broach Vijay, Fine	"	"	"	2/ 925.00	24.58	21.26
Karachi		Maund				
4F Punjab, SG, Fine		82.28 lbs.	"			
289F Sind, SG, Fine		"	"			
289F Punjab, SG, Fine		"	"			
Buenos Aires		Metric ton				
Type B	1-10	2204.6 lbs.	Peso	8500.00	77.11	7.19
Lima		Sp. quintal				
Tanguis, Type 3-1/2	1-8	101.4 lbs.	Sol	(not quoted)		
Tanguis, Type 5	"	"	"	(not quoted)		
Pima, Type 1	"	"	"	(not quoted)		
Recife		Arroba				
Mata, Type 4	1-10	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	3/		
Sertao, Type 5	"	"	"	(not quoted)		
Sertao, Type 4	"	"	"	450.00	74.04	2.4% ad valorem
Sao Paulo						
Sao Paulo, Type 5	"	"	"	355.00	58.41	3.0% "
Torreon		Sp. quintal				
Middling, 15/16"		101.4 lbs.	Peso	4/		
Houston-Galveston-New Orleans av.Mid. 15/16"	"	Pound	Cent	XXXXX	42.27	-----

Quotations of foreign markets and taxes reported by cable from U.S. Foreign Service posts abroad. U.S. quotations from designated spot markets.

1/ Reported 810.00 (21.53) to 820.00 (21.79 ceiling).
2/ Ceiling price.
3/ Reported 320.00 (52.65) to 340.00 (55.94); tax 2.4% ad valorem.
4/ Price received too late for inclusion in last week's table: Torreon, January 3, 1952, in pesos per Spanish quintal with U.S. cents per pound in parentheses, Middling, 15/16" 305.00 (34.78); taxes 6.48 U.S. cents.

1951-52 ARGENTINE COTTON ACREAGE SHOWS INCREASE

The most recent unofficial estimates place the area planted to cotton in Argentina in 1951-52 at 1,360,000 acres, about 11 percent above the 1,230,000 acres planted in 1950-51, according to Cleveland B. McKnight, Assistant Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Buenos Aires. Harvested acreage in 1950-51 totaled 1,142,000 acres. The high level of prices was the primary factor responsible for this large increase in cotton acreage. Since planting was completed in November abundant rains have materially aided the progress of the crop although the dampness has hampered weeding and cultivation operations. Isolated invasions of locusts have been reported but adequate means were available in each case to combat them. With picking of the crop to begin in February it is still too early to forecast accurately the production from the increased acreage although it is generally expected that it will be somewhat above 500,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross), a sizable increase above the 460,000 bales produced in 1950-51.

Exports of Argentine cotton in 1950 amounted to 161,000 bales while during the first 9 months of 1951 exports totaled 169,000 bales. During these 9 months the largest proportions were shipped to Italy and the United Kingdom, with substantial quantities also going to Spain and Japan. About 160,000 bales of the total were exported during January through April 1951, stimulated by the world shortage of cotton. On May 10 the Government suspended all export of cotton for an indefinite period. Since that time only small quantities of cotton have been shipped from Argentina apparently under permits granted prior to May 10.

BELGIAN COTTON IMPORTS LAG

Imports of cotton into Belgium during the first 3 months of 1951-52 totaled 80,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross), somewhat less than the 104,000 bales imported during the corresponding period of 1950-51, according to Robert N. Anderson, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Brussels. More than half of the imports in the current season, or 44,000 bales, originated in the United States, while 22,000 bales originated in the Belgian Congo. The trade hopes to import about 500,000 bales from all sources in 1951-52, compared with the 472,000 bales imported in the previous season. By the middle of December 420,000 bales had already been contracted for import with 308,000 bales from the United States, 69,000 from the Belgian Congo, 21,000 from Mexico, and 22,000 from other sources.

Consumption of cotton in Belgian spinning mills during the first 3 months of 1951-52 totaled 135,000 bales, approximately equal to the 134,000 bales consumed in the same period of 1950-51, and maintaining the high level of mill operations in effect during the 1950-51 season when consumption amounted to 508,000 bales. With imports lagging somewhat during August through October 1951 and consumption continuing at a high level, stocks of cotton decreased from 114,000 bales on August 1, 1951, to 63,000 bales by the end of October, less than a 6-weeks' supply at the current rate of consumption. This situation is expected to improve, however, when more of the

cotton already contracted begins to arrive in Belgium.

Both the local and export markets for Belgian cotton yarn and cloth have been dull during the first 3 months of 1951-52. According to trade sources the domestic market is lagging due to liquidation by merchants of previously accumulated heavy stocks. Decreased foreign sales are partly attributed to the temporary confusion resulting from the recent restrictions placed on exports of cotton textiles by the Government. These restrictions include quotas for cotton yarn and piecegoods exports to nondollar areas making it necessary for exporters to obtain licenses for such shipments and a 5 percent temporary tax or deposit on all sales to soft-currency areas.

Under these conditions stocks of yarn and cloth have been accumulating at the mills. Total stocks of yarn at the end of October 1951 were about 30 percent higher than one year earlier, while cloth stocks were more than 75 percent above last year. Although the cotton mills continue to work regularly, a curtailment in operations is anticipated by some and a complete work stoppage is being considered by others.

BELGIUM: Imports of raw cotton from major countries of origin; average 1934-38; annual 1948-49; 1949-50; 1950-51; August-October 1950 and 1951

(Equivalent bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country of origin	Year beginning August 1				August-October	
	Average 1934-38	1948-49	1949-50	1950-51	1950	1951
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
United States	145	152	245	159	47	44
Mexico	1/	6	44	65	14	2
Brazil	26	9	2/	2	0	1
Peru	8	18	25	31	11	8
Turkey	1/	10	12	7	2	1/
India	154	27	12	4	1	1/
Belgian Congo	120	91	86	125	15	22
Egypt	17	12	13	24	3	1
Others	36	17	18	3/ 55	11	2
Total	506	342	455	472	104	80

1/ If any, included in other countries. 2/ Less than 500 bales.
3/ Argentina 10; Pakistan 9; Syria 9.

1951-52 COTTON PRODUCTION IN GREECE SHOWS INCREASE

The most recent official estimate of 1951-52 cotton production in Greece placed the crop at 126,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross), an increase of 8 percent above the 117,000 bales produced in 1950-51 and a record-high level, according to Print Hudson, Agricultural Attache, and C. Souliotis, American Embassy, Athens. Cotton acreage increased by 11 percent with 212,000 acres harvested in the current season as compared with 191,000 acres in 1950-51. Yields were lowered somewhat this year by unfavorable weather conditions during part of the picking season which was completed early in December. The quality of the crop was also affected by the adverse weather during picking but this was partially offset by the new ginning, cleaning and drying equipment in operation for the first time this season. In addition, the one-variety-district system has increased in popularity in Greece, resulting in more uniformity in quality of cotton.

The large domestic production of cotton in the past 2 years has made Greece more than self-sufficient (in short- and medium-staple types) for meeting local mill consumption requirements which totaled 109,000 bales in 1950-51. Small quantities of special types of long-staple fiber are still imported, largely from Egypt and the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan. In the current season mill consumption has been running at a slightly lower rate, despite the stimulus provided by sizable orders for cotton yarn and cloth from the United Kingdom and Yugoslavia. These were the first such contracts that have been made with foreign countries for the export of cotton textiles from Greece.

With the domestic supply position relatively strong, the Greek Government announced on October 5, 1951, that licenses would be granted for export of 5,000 metric tons (23,000 bales) of cotton in November and December. An additional 4,000 bales of cotton had been shipped from Greece during the first 3 months of the current season, largely to Italy and France with a small quantity going to Western Germany. In 1950-51 cotton exports from Greece totaled 6,900 bales, 4,600 bales of which were destined for Yugoslavia and the remainder for Western European countries.

On November 7, 1951, the Government fixed a "security" or minimum price of 18,500 drachmas per oka (43.6 U.S. cents a pound) for Middling 15/16-inch cotton in 1951-52. However, the Government, through export controls, has assured the spinning mills of a sufficient supply for the season. In November 1951 the price to the farmer for Strict Middling 1-inch cotton averaged slightly less than 35 cents a pound. Although this was below the security price and the prevailing world level of cotton prices, it nevertheless was favorable compared with the prices of alternative crops the farmer might produce. For this reason it is expected that the acreage to be planted in cotton for the 1952-53 crop will equal or exceed the 1951-52 acreage.

FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND NUTS

NEW PRICES FOR 1951-52 SPANISH PICKLED OLIVES

The new official export prices set by the Spanish Government for the period November 20, 1951 to November 20, 1952 are as follows:

PRICES PER FANEGA OF 44 NET KILOS (96.8 U.S. POUNDS) FOR SEVILLE

MANZANILLAS

1951-52

Sizes	Plain	Stuffed
	1st. Assortment	
180/200	$22.00	$33.00
200/220	"	"
240/260	"	"
280/300	"	"
300/320	"	"
	2nd. Assortment	
340/360	$22.00	$31.00
380/400	"	"

STUFFED QUEENS

1951-52

The same assortment as for Plain Queens-Firsts.

Price $28.00 per fanega.

QUEEN FIRSTS (Plain) Extra Sizes

Sizes	Price
60/70	$26.00

QUEEN SECONDS (Plain) Extra Sizes

Sizes	Price
60/70	$24.00

QUEENS-FIRSTS (Plain)

1951-52

Assortment	Sizes	Prices
1	70/80	$22.00
3	80/90	21.00
6	90/100	20.50
15	100/110)	
19	110/120)	
16	120/130)----	18.50
15	130/140)	
9	140/150)	
7	150/160)	
4	160/180)	
3	180/200)----	17.00
2	200/220)	

QUEEN SECONDS (Plain)

Assortment	Sizes	Prices
1	70/80	$17.50
6	80/90	16.50
12	90/100)	
18	100/110)	
18	110/120)----	
14	120/130)	16.00
11	130/140)	
8	140/150)	
5	150/160)	
3	160/180)	
2	180/200)----	15.75
2	200/220)	

The new prices are to be in effect from November 20, 1951 to November 20, 1952. They may be raised (although this is not expected), but in no case may be lowered during this period.

TOBACCO

TURKEY'S TOBACCO PRODUCTION LOWER; EXPORTS HIGHER

Turkey's 1951 tobacco crop is estimated by the Tobacco Monopoly at about 2 percent below the 1950 harvest, according to L. L. Scranton, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Ankara. Exports of leaf tobacco during January-June 1951 were 20 percent above the corresponding 1950 period.

The country's 1951 tobacco harvest is estimated at 182.8 million pounds from 309,300 acres. This compares with the 1950 output of 187.3 million pounds from 317,000 acres. Yield per acre for 1951 is estimated at 590 pounds, compared with 590 pounds per acre in 1950.

Leaf exports during the first 6 months of 1951 totaled 68.8 million pounds, compared with 57.2 during the same 1950 period. The United States, the most important export outlet during 1951, took 49.4 million pounds; Western Germany, the second most important outlet, took 3.3 million pounds; Egypt ranked third, with nearly 3.0 million pounds; and Austria, fourth, with 2.7 million pounds. Other countries taking Turkish leaf included Norway, Denmark, Finland, France, the Netherlands, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Poland, Brazil, Uruguay, and "others". In addition to leaf, Turkey exported 2.0 million pounds of scrap tobacco and 15,930 pounds of cigarettes.

ALGERIA'S TOBACCO PRODUCTION LOWER; EXPORTS HIGHER; IMPORTS STEADY

Algeria's 1951 tobacco production tentatively is estimated at 10 percent below the 1950 leaf harvest, according to R. C. Desmond, Consul, American Consulate, Algiers. Exports of leaf tobacco during the first 6 months of 1951 were more than treble the comparable 1950 period. Imports of leaf during January-June 1951 were slightly higher than during the corresponding 1950 period.

The country's 1951 tobacco crop is preliminarily estimated at 38.6 million pounds from 74,130 acres, compared with 42.8 million pounds from 79,541 acres. Yield per acre during 1951 is preliminarily estimated at 520 pounds, compared with 538 pounds in 1950.

Leaf exports during January-June 1951 totaled 7.3 million pounds, compared with 2.3 million pounds during the corresponding 1950 period. France and French Possessions, the greatest 1951 export outlet, took 4.1 million pounds of leaf; Czechoslovakia, second most important outlet, took 1.4 million pounds; Portugal ranked third, with 1.2 million; and the Netherlands, fourth, with 329,588 pounds. The remaining leaf was taken by Uruguay, Switzerland, and "other" foreign countries. In addition to leaf, Algeria exported 6.5 million pounds of cigarettes, 206,791 pounds of smoking tobacco; and 475,200 cigars.

Imports of leaf during January-June 1951 totaled 4.4 million pounds, which is equal to imports during the first half of 1950. Brazil, the most important 1951 leaf source, supplied 1.4 million pounds; Dominican Republic, the second most important source, supplied 1.0 million pounds; the United States ranked third, with 776,019 pounds; Hungary, fourth, with 374,121 pounds; Paraguay, fifth, with 293,653 pounds; Italy, sixth, with 222,665 pounds. Other countries supplying Algeria with leaf during 1951 included Greece, Germany, Colombia, Central American countries, and "other" foreign countries. In addition to leaf, Algeria imported 17,416 pounds of cigarettes, 1,984 pounds of smoking tobacco, and 92,500 cigars during the first half of 1951.

FATS AND OILS

INDIANS TRY PEANUT OIL FOR FUEL IN DIESEL ENGINE TRACTOR

Refined peanut oil can be used as a fuel for high-speed diesel engine tractors without any "pronounced adverse effects," is the conclusion reached after recent experimentation in India, reports the American Consulate General, Madras. The experiment, conducted in recent months, created special interest because of the threat that the supply of petroleum fuel oils would become critical in the face of the Iranian crisis beginning last summer. Nevertheless, the practicability of the experiment is shadowed by the exorbitant cost of peanut oil for fuel use. It is roughly 8 times higher than that of diesel oil.

Specifically, the experiment resulted in the following conclusions regarding the use of refined peanut oil for fuel: (1) It caused no trouble in starting; (2) engine performance was as smooth and normal as with high-speed diesel oil; (3) smokiness, not noticeable at the outset, was perceptible toward the end of the 50-hour test; (4) consumption in the later stages of the runs was slightly more than in the earlier stages, both on load and no load; (5) there was no noticeable decrease in power output in changing from the use of diesel to peanut oil; (6) engine performance with mixture of equal parts of peanut and diesel oil was not materially superior to performance on pure peanut oil but for the fact the exhaust was very slightly less smoky; and (7) the cylinder head at the end of the test revealed no undue deposit of carbon and no evidence of burning, pitting or corrosion of valves and valve seats.

The experiment was conducted with a 54-horsepower track type tractor. Although considerable experimental work on the use of peanut oil in small powered stationary engines had been done previously in India and other countries, the results obtained reportedly were not considered conclusive. Moreover, the impression is that no such work had been done on mobile engines of recent design.

ETHIOPIA'S OILSEED PRODUCTION,
INCREASES IN 1951-52

Ethiopia's vegetable oilseed production in 1951-52 is expected to increase more than 16 percent from the 1950-51 output, reports A. L. Paddock, Jr., American Embassy, Addis Ababa. Although harvesting of the 1951-52 crop is currently in progress, early indications place production at around 367,000 short tons (excluding castor beans) compared with an estimated 315,000 tons (including castor beans) in 1950-51. More even spacing of rains and other favorable conditions contributed to the increase from the previous season.

ETHIOPIA: Estimated oilseed production 1950-51 and 1951-52
acreage 1950-51

Oilseed	Acreage 1950-51 1/	Production 1950-51 1/	Production 1951-52 2/
	Acres	Short tons	Short tons
Peanuts	75,000	18,700	22,600
Soybeans	30,000	3/ 6,600	3/ 8,300
Sesame seed	150,000	28,700	35,300
Flaxseed	225,000	4/ 33,100	4/ 39,700
Neuk seed (Niger seed)	600,000	121,300	148,800
Sunflower seed	450,000	93,700	112,400
Castor beans	5/	13,000	5/
Total	1,530,000	315,100	367,100

1/ Revised. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Bushel equivalent: 1950-51-220,000, 1951-52-276,000. 4/ Bushel equivalent: 1950-51-1,180,000, 1951-52-1,420,000. 5/ Not reported.

American Embassy, Addis Ababa.

Latest price quotations for the following oilseeds, Ethiopian markets, November 26, 1951, were: neuk seed-32 Ethiopian dollars per metric quintal (U.S. $117 per short ton); flaxseed-36 ($131); castor beans-58 ($212). While price data for December 1951, are lacking, trade sources reported a slight drop which they expected to continue into 1952.

A growing emphasis on oilseed cultivation seems to be taking place in Ethiopian agriculture. Relatively inexpensive transportation costs from the Gondar area to such ports as Massawa and Assab and cheaper cultivation costs by comparison with other crops are the reasons reportedly behind the current trend.

Trade sources estimate that farmers are holding substantial seed grain supplies and that seedings in March and April will more than equal those for the current harvest.

PANAMA CONSIDERS HIGHER IMPORT DUTIES ON FATS AND OILS

Efforts are being made in the Republic of Panama to increase the duties on imported fats and oils, according to information available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Believed to be under consideration by the National Assembly is a bill which would increase the prevailing average duty on all imported fats and oils of 10 cents per kilogram (4.5 cents per pound), which is paid in addition to a 5-percent ad valorem consular fee, to 30 cents per kilogram (13.6 cents per pound) plus the 5-percent ad valorem fee.

Opposition to the measure has been voiced by a group of food importers comprising the Association of Food Wholesalers. In an open letter to the National Assembly dated December 12, 1951, the Association expressed considerable apprehension over the alleged harm such action would cause the national economy. A graphic portrayal of the resultant higher prices to be paid for imported lard by consumers if the proposed bill were to become law was given extensive coverage by the Panamanian press. Paid advertisements supporting the Association's stand also appeared.

The proposed law was supported strongly by an editorial, "Industrialization and Protection," which appeared in the December 18 issue of the daily La Nacion. Taking strong exception to the Association's letter, the editorial pointed out that protectionism for the small fats and oils industry is in the best interests of the country. The contention was it would not only stimulate the expansion of the domestic industry and provide increased employment, but would restrict the outflow of sorely-needed capital from economically-underdeveloped Panama.

AUSTRIA RATIONS FATS IN 1952

The Austrian Government has extended the rationing of imported fats from December 31, 1951 to June 30, 1952. The legislation became effective December 3, 1951. Fixed fat rations for the 87th ration period (December 3-30, 1951) were raised from 600 grams (imported lard-300, margarine-200, compound lard-100 grams) distributed during the 86th ration period to 650 grams (imported lard-250, margarine-200, compound lard-100, edible oil-100 grams) in view of the holiday season in December. The fat ration in effect during the 84th ration period-September 10 to October 7-was published in Foreign Crops and Markets, October 8, 1951, page 376.

INDIA REDUCES EXPORT DUTY ON MUSTARD OIL, IMPORT DUTY ON COCONUT OIL

India's Ministry of Finance recently issued notifications announcing reductions in Indian customs duties on exported mustard oil and imported coconut oil, reports H.C. Voorhees, American Embassy, New Delhi.

The first notification, S.R.O. 1846, reduces the Indian export duty on mustard oil from 8 to 3 annas per pound (10.5 to 4.0 cents).

The second notification, S.R.O. 1847, reduces the standard rate of import duty on coconut oil from 43-1/3 percent (this percentage includes the additional duties levied until now on coconut oil under the Indian Finance Act and the Indian Tariff Amendment Act, 1951) to 31-1/4 percent ad valorem, and the preferential rate of duty from 31-1/4 percent to 21 percent ad valorem if the oil is the produce or manufacture of a British Colony.

In commenting on the reduced import duties, the Indian press stated that imports of coconut oil from Ceylon and Singapore, the principal suppliers to India, have been declining over the past year. As the reductions are expected to reflect themselves in lower prices on the supplying markets, they should also be a factor in increasing imports of coconut oil into India.